

Message

From: Wittstruck, Nathan [Wittstruck.Nathan@epa.gov]
Sent: 1/31/2019 6:22:27 PM
To: Renz, Bobby [Bobby.Renz@icf.com]
CC: Vance, Ronald [Vance.Ronald@epa.gov]; Rubright, Tyler [Rubright.Tyler@epa.gov]; Ganguli, Swarupa [Ganguli.Swarupa@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: APR's Environmental Benefits Study

Thanks Bobby,
It sounds like this could be very valuable to us – good to hear!

I have a conflict during today's WARM meeting, so Tyler will cover. I should be able to attend all meetings going forward.

Best,
Nathan Wittstruck
Special Assistant
Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery
Environmental Protection Agency
703-308-8408

From: Renz, Bobby <Bobby.Renz@icf.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2019 11:19 AM
To: Wittstruck, Nathan <Wittstruck.Nathan@epa.gov>
Cc: Vance, Ronald <Vance.Ronald@epa.gov>; Rubright, Tyler <Rubright.Tyler@epa.gov>; Ganguli, Swarupa <Ganguli.Swarupa@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: APR's Environmental Benefits Study

Hi Nathan,

Thanks for sending, I agree this looks like a really useful study. It is an update and expansion of the study that served as the basis for the last round of plastics updates in WARM. From a quick scan of the report, it looks like it would allow us to update the source reduction factors for HDPE, PET, and PP; update the recycling factors for HDPE and PET; and allow us to add a new recycling option for PP, which currently isn't available in WARM. We can plan to discuss further during our call this afternoon.

Thanks!

Bobby

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From: Wittstruck, Nathan [mailto:Wittstruck.Nathan@epa.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2019 2:24 PM
To: Renz, Bobby <Bobby.Renz@icf.com>
Cc: Vance, Ronald <Vance.Ronald@epa.gov>; Rubright, Tyler <Rubright.Tyler@epa.gov>; Ganguli, Swarupa <Ganguli.Swarupa@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: APR's Environmental Benefits Study

Hi Bobby,

Sorry for the wonky font, but wanted to paste the article so you have the report link directly. Please see the APR study on plastics that may be relevant to the WARM tool calculations. If so, we could consider how to incorporate and update some plastics categories over the next year or

so.

AP

R study quantifies benefits of recycled resin

Posted on January 30, 2019

by Jared Paben

Intuition says making products from recycled plastic is better for the environment than using virgin plastic. A recent study puts hard numbers to that understanding.

The Association of Plastic Recyclers (APR) on Jan. 28 released a report titled “Life Cycle Impacts for Postconsumer Recycled Resins: PET, HDPE and PP.” The analysis was performed by Franklin Associates, a division of Eastern Research Group.

The study found that using recycled plastic reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 67 percent for PET, 71 percent for HDPE and 71 percent for PP. The use of recycled plastic reduces total energy consumption by 79 percent for PET, 88 percent for HDPE and 88 percent for PP.

The analysis also includes estimates for other measures of environmental benefit, including water consumption, solid waste generation, acidification, eutrophication (excess nutrients in water that can lead to oxygen depletion) and smog. The information allows brand owners to better calculate their environmental impacts and provides reclaimers with additional data to support their marketing efforts.

“This study shows a win-win for companies who incorporate recycled plastic resin into their new products,” Steve Alexander, president and CEO of APR, stated in a [press release](#). “They can improve the environmental sustainability of their products and processes and reduce their energy costs. It demonstrates the importance and effectiveness of the full recycling chain for plastic goods – a chain that starts with companies manufacturing recyclable products, and ends with consumers buying products made from recycled materials.”

In a webinar last August, Franklin Associates and APR teased some early conclusions of the then-ongoing work. At the time, researchers said they still needed to gather additional information from plastics reclaimers to finalize the numbers. The final numbers show even greater greenhouse gas reduction benefits than those suggested last year. Specifically, last year, Franklin Associates anticipated finding a 50 percent decrease for PET and a 65 to 70 percent reduction for HDPE and PP.

“This report clearly demonstrates the benefits of a renewed commitment to plastic recycling,” Jaime Camara, CEO of Mexico PET reclaimer PetStar and chairman of the APR Board of Directors, stated in the release. “It is critical that North America continues to invest in our recycling infrastructure so that we can expand the material that is collected, sorted and processed for second use. Recycling and using recycled materials are good for manufacturers, consumers and the planet.”

Best,
Nathan Wittstruck
Special Assistant
Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery
Environmental Protection Agency
703-308-8408

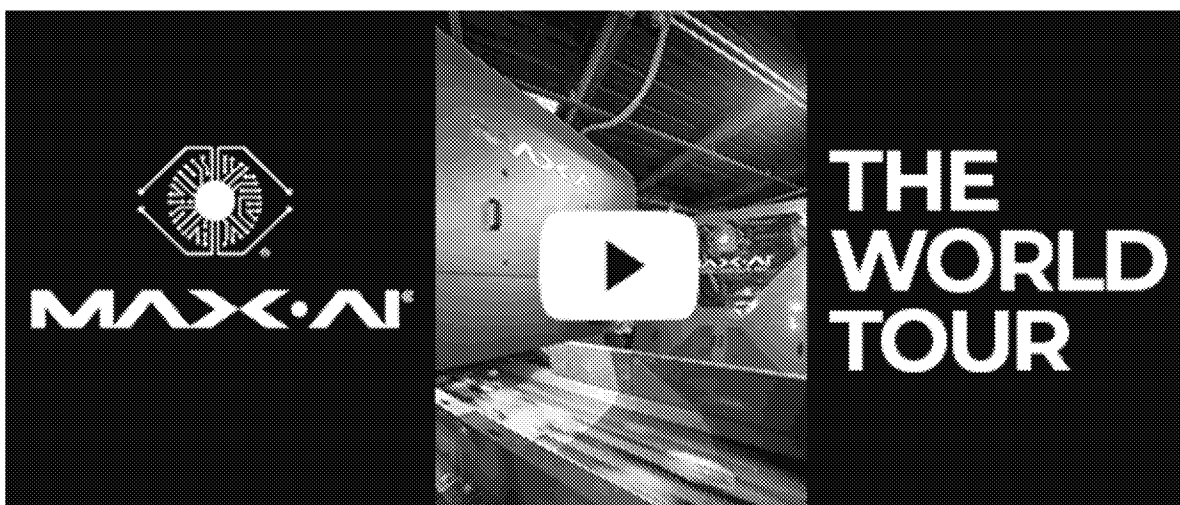
From: Plastics Recycling Update <newsletter@resourcerecyclinginc.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2019 2:04 PM
To: Wittstruck, Nathan <Wittstruck.Nathan@epa.gov>
Subject: Corporate Execs Tout Recycling; APR's Environmental Benefits Study; Carpet Reclaimer

This week's top industry news and analysis.

PLASTICS RECYCLING UPDATE

January 30, 2019

This week's e-news is sponsored by:



China's scrap plastic imports down 99 percent

by Colin Staub

Year-end customs figures from the Chinese government quantify the country's overwhelming decrease in recycled plastic purchases in the first year of new import restrictions.



Coca-Cola: Recycled plastic can 'become the norm'

by Colin Staub

Plastics recycling was highlighted in multiple discussions and announcements at the World Economic Forum last week.





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Plastics Recycling Conference: Lifting domestic demand

Stakeholders agree it's time to aggressively pursue strategies to grow recycled resin usage in North America. A session at the upcoming Plastics Recycling Conference and Trade Show will cover ongoing efforts to boost the domestic consumption of recovered plastics.



Moderated by **Craig Cookson** of the American Chemistry Council (ACC), the session will include the following speakers:

- **Wendy Worley** of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
- **Liz Bedard** of the Association of Plastic Recyclers (APR)
- **Bob Daviduk** of rPlanet Earth

The 2019 Plastics Recycling Conference and Trade Show is set for March 11-13 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center just outside of Washington, D.C. The 2018 show drew nearly 2,000 attendees from 35 countries, and it boasted more than 200 sponsoring and exhibiting companies. Expect even more excitement this year.

Head to plasticsrecycling.com for all the latest info on attending, sponsoring and exhibiting.

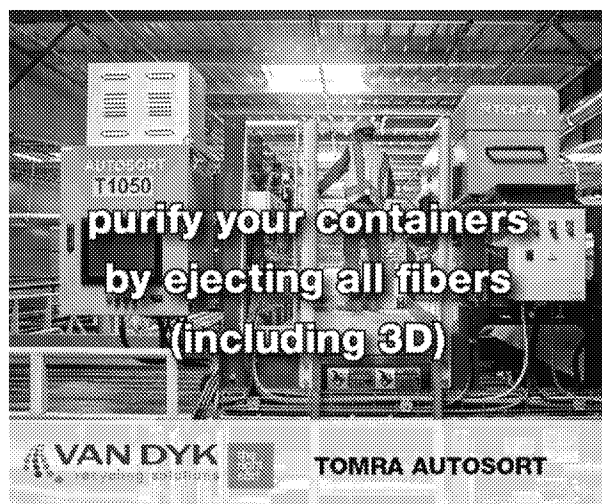
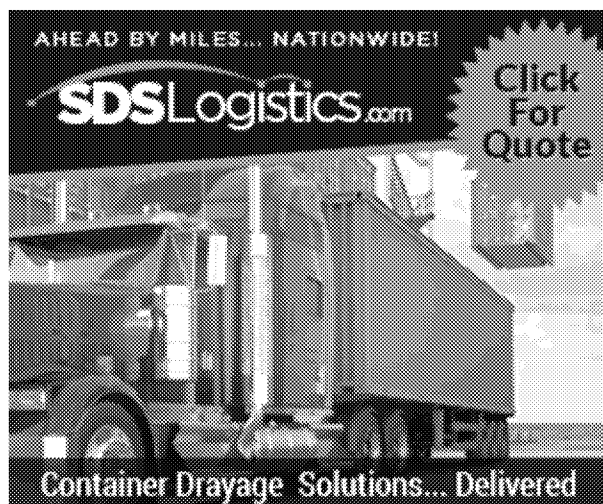


Sunshine State targets film with industry partner

by Colin Staub

A statewide campaign will seek to increase plastic film recovery throughout Florida.



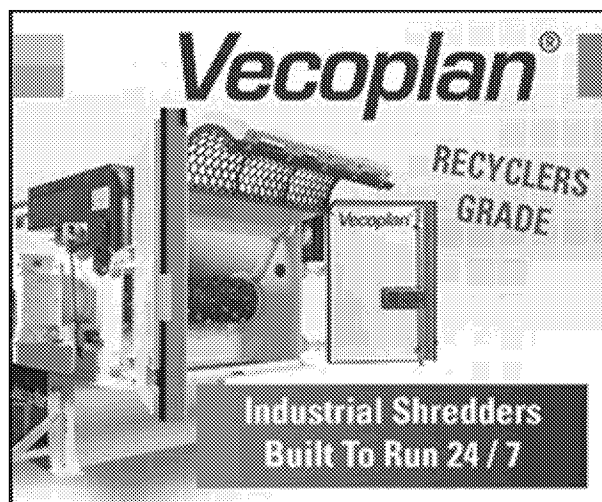


APR study quantifies benefits of recycled resin

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Intuition says making products from recycled plastic is better for the environment than using virgin plastic. A recent study puts hard numbers to that understanding.





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PLASTIC RECYCLING TECHNOLOGIES

Dime deposit drives up Oregon return rate

by Colin Staub

The longest-running container deposit program in the country expects to hit its highest redemption rate in years, shortly after the program doubled its deposit to 10 cents.

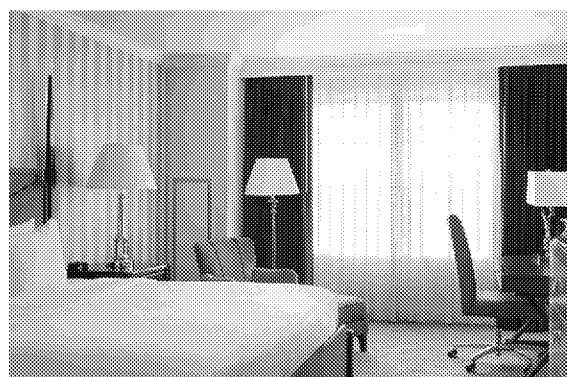




Plastics Recycling Conference: Book hotel room and save

The 2019 Plastics Recycling Conference and Trade Show is just around the corner. Act now to lock in your hotel room at the discounted rate.

The host for the 14th annual event is the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, which is located just outside of Washington, D.C. The complex, located at the edge of the Potomac River, sports a 19-story glass atrium and stately federal-style architecture. Attendees are highly encouraged to stay at the host hotel because it offers them a spot near the deal-making, networking and learning.



Reserve your room by Feb. 13, 2019 or before the room block sells out to lock in the group rate of \$229, plus resort fee and taxes, for single/double occupancy.

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Head to plasticsrecycling.com for all the latest info on attending, sponsoring and exhibiting.



Reclaimer opens Southwest carpet recovery operation

by Jared Paben

A new carpet recycling facility in Arizona is producing recycled PP for injection molding and nylon 6 for chemical recycling into a number of high-end textiles.



Industry announcements

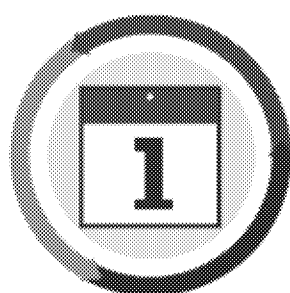
Adidas plans to produce 11 million pairs of shoes made with ocean plastic this year, up from 5 million pairs in 2018.

Highland Spring, a Scottish bottled water supplier, will make a 100 percent recycled plastic bottle a permanent component of its product line.

KFC committed that all consumer-facing plastic packaging will be recoverable or reusable by 2025.

See the [full list](#) of recent announcements.

Tools and resources



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